

*Dewan's reply.*—Greater financial powers will be given to the Committees subject to the general control of Government. The provision regarding the raising of loans is already in the draft Bill.

94. Some improvements to the Toduvetti market.

*Mr. K. M. Madhavan Pillai* (Member, T. I. C., Kuzhithura) said that the Toduvetti market suffered a mutilation with the opening of a road, through its centre, leading to Karungal. The road across the market caused great inconvenience to the people resorting to the market and to the travelling public on market days. There was a cattle market a little to the south and the market days for both the markets were the same. The cattle taken to the cattle market through the road added to the difficulties. When the Kuzhithura Committee began to collect municipal dues in respect of all articles brought to the market, a further difficulty was experienced in enclosing it owing to the presence of the road across. The people entering it could not be discriminated from people travelling through the road. The amount collected as market dues had therefore fallen during the current year.

To avoid all difficulties, the Member proposed the diversion of the Karungal road. There was a lane leading from the Main Southern road about a furlong to the west of the market. It was about 10 ft. wide and 2 furlongs long. If that lane were improved into a cart road, all traffic could be diverted to it and the market could be enclosed.

*Dewan's reply.*—The Committee should consider at one of their meetings whether they would be willing to spend the amount necessary for the conversion of the lane into a cart road, and forward their resolution to Government. The question will be considered when the Committee's proposals are received.

95. Suggestions for improving the sanitation of the town of Trivandrum.

*Mr. S. Adam Sait* (Member, Trading Classes of health and all those elements were practically wanting in the town of Trivandrum. Air was contaminated by dust and steam. Increasing traffic made the roads more dusty. The daily inhalation of air charged with microbes of diseases conveyed through the dust wrecked the health of the citizens. He suggested that the only remedy was the watering of the main road from Karamanai to the Museum at least during the hot months of the year. The stench emanating from the gutters and from the night-soil carts was another nuisance, which could be remedied by a regular flushing of the gutters with phenol lotion and by prohibiting the heaping of dirty matter on the sides of roads and by the transuision of night-soil in air-tight carts. He then referred to the insanitary condition of the lane leading to Muripalathadi temple in Chalai which he represented was one of the hot-beds of diseases caused by the stagnation of the water from the gutters.

Coming to the question of water supply, he said that, generally in the whole of the town, and particularly in Palavangadi, Fort and Chalai, the water in the wells was extremely bad. The diseases that had recently taken a firm stand in the town, such as typhoid fever, elephantiasis, etc., were directly traceable to bad water. If the water sources were not immediately improved and pipe water introduced in the town, the town of Trivandrum would in a few years become unfit for habitation.

Dearth of public latrines was another factor which conduced to the insanitary condition of the town. People suffering from contagious diseases, such as leprosy, etc., were not prevented from resorting to thoroughfares and markets and the law was not being rigorously enforced against them. The Town Improvement Committee did not exercise sufficient control over the sale of confectionery. He suggested that greater discretion should be exercised in the matter of granting licenses for long periods to theatrical performances and that arrangements should be made for the periodical inspection of public conveyances. Much of the milk and buttermilk supplied in the town was adulterated. As the adulterated articles were likely to poison the system when taken in, he thought it essential that they should be inspected as much as flesh or any other article of food. Better attention should be shown to the poor in the town.

respect of medical relief. Lights should be maintained throughout the nights at least in the busiest streets. He prayed that no additional tax should be imposed on the already doubly taxed citizens, for the purpose of effecting any of the improvements suggested by him. He requested that a new dispensary should be opened at Chalai.

*Dein's reply.*—Noted.

96. Some needs of the town of Trivandrum.

*Mr. U. Padmanabha Kukilaya, M. A., B. L.* (Member, T. I. C., Trivandrum) said that the sanitation of the town was in many respects far from satisfactory. There were several things which the Committee ought to do and wished to do but were unable to do for want of funds. But there were other problems, which could not be solved, unless the Government took the initiative. The most important of them was the supply of good drinking water in the town. Good water was scarce in the important sections of the town. Not only was the quality of the water bad but for three months in the year there was scarcity of water. The dearth of water was steadily increasing year after year and fever and malaria took a firm stand in the town and deaths from those diseases were on the increase.

*Dewan.*—Is it really so? I called for figures for several years and examined them. My impression is that the death rate from fevers is not increasing.

The Member said that the recommendation of the Committee and the statistics recently collected by the Committee and sent to Government would show beyond doubt that the death rate from fever was increasing. The Committee recommended an investigation into the causes of those diseases with a view to suggest remedial measures, but it was not yet sanctioned. Those diseases were traceable to bad water. He requested that early steps should be taken for introducing pipe water into the town. There were a few tube-wells and private wells. But they were not enough for the purposes of the town.

He next dealt with the necessity for constructing public latrines in the town at an early date. Government had sanctioned Rs. 15,000 in 1909 for the construction of 16 public latrines in the town, but the actual work, it was stated, would be taken up in the order of urgency. Five temporary public latrines and two urinals were put up by the Committee with a special grant from the Government, but they would not meet the requirements of the town. The provision made by the Chief Engineer in the budget for 1911 for the construction of latrines was vetoed by the Government on the ground that the matter was not urgent. He regretted that such an all-important question affecting the health of the town was not considered as urgent. Some of the works sanctioned, while vetoing the provision for public latrines, were not so very urgent and could have been omitted to provide funds for the latrines. He said that, till about the middle of Makaram, more than 1,200 persons were prosecuted for committing public nuisance. It was the result of patrol duty on particular days in certain parts of the town, but the number of actual offenders could be considerably more. It was therefore clear that the necessity for public latrines was felt by the people. The Committee also wanted several other things to be done such as the clearing of certain public tanks.

*Dewan.*—Some tanks have been improved.

*Member.*—We are thankful for the same. We only hope that the Government would proceed with the matter a little faster.

*Dewan.*—Improvement of many other tanks has also been sanctioned.

The Member then adverted to the condition of the drains in the town. The drains on the sides of even the main road were full of filth. He understood that an Engineer from the Public Works Department was deputed to investigate the drainage system in the town, but what practically came out of it was not known. He requested that early steps should be taken towards the improvement of the drainage system in the town.

Coming to the question of lanes, he said that most of the lanes in the town were too narrow for conservancy work. The work could not also be undertaken now